

THIRTEENTH SUPPLEMENT TO THE AMERICAN  
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION CHECK-LIST OF  
NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.<sup>1</sup>

AT A session of the A. O. U. Committee on Nomenclature held in Washington in April, 1904, the following rulings were adopted. Departures from the nomenclature of the Check-List due to the adoption by authors of the 12th instead of the 10th edition of Linnaeus's '*Systema Naturæ*,' and those which are merely expressive of personal preference or opinion, without the presentation of new evidence, were not considered as requiring the formal reaffirmation of the Committee's previous rulings in such cases.

Owing to the limited time at the Committee's disposal, and the absence of the requisite material, many cases were deferred for later action. In view of the present large number of these it was decided to refer as many of them as possible to subcommittees for investigation, with instructions to report thereon to the full Committee at its next session, which it is hoped can be so planned that both time and material will be available to enable the Committee to dispose of practically all of the cases then awaiting action.

In preparing the present Supplement it has been deemed advisable to omit the secondary references to species and subspecies, together with the concordance and geographical ranges, and also the list of deferred cases.

	{ J. A. ALLEN, <i>Chairman</i> .
	{ CHARLES W. RICHMOND, <i>Secretary</i> .
	{ WILLIAM BREWSTER.
Committee.	{ JONATHAN DWIGHT, JR.
	{ C. HART MERRIAM.
	{ ROBERT RIDGWAY.
	{ WITMER STONE.

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<sup>1</sup> Five Supplements have been issued since the publication of the Second Edition of the Check-List in 1895, as follows :

Eighth Supplement, *Auk*, XIV, Jan., 1897, pp. 117-135.

Ninth Supplement, *Auk*, XVI, Jan., 1899, pp. 97-133.

Tenth Supplement, *Auk*, XVIII, July, 1901, pp. 295-320.

Eleventh Supplement, *Auk*, XIX, July, 1902, pp. 315-342.

Twelfth Supplement, *Auk*, XX, July, 1903, pp. 331-368.

I. ADDITIONS TO THE CHECK-LIST AND ACCEPTED  
CHANGES IN NOMENCLATURE.<sup>1</sup>GENUS **ENICONETTA** GRAY. This becomesGENUS **POLYSTICTA** EYTON.*Polysticta* EYTON, Catal. Brit. Birds, 1836, 58. Type, *Anas stelleri* PALLAS.

*Eniconetta* was proposed by Gray, to replace *Polysticta* EYTON, on the ground that the latter name was preoccupied by *Polysticte* SMITH (1836). Eyton's *Polysticta* has, however, two or three months' priority over *Polysticte* SMITH (cf. RICHMOND, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, 1903, 128). Steller's Duck thus becomes

157. **Polysticta stelleri** (PALLAS).243a. **Pelidna alpina pacifica** (COUES). An earlier name is found in243a. **Pelidna alpina sakhalina** (VIEILLOT).

*Scolopax sakhalina* VIEILLOT, Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., III, 1816, 359 (cf. BUTURLIN, Auk, 1904, 53).

297c. **Dendragapus obscurus sierræ** CHAPMAN.

Sierra Grouse.

*Dendragapus obscurus sierræ* CHAPMAN, Bull. Am. Mus. N. H., XX, April 25, 1904, 159.

GEOG. DIST.—California (forested portions of Transition and Boreal zones), north to Fort Klamath, Oregon.

GENUS **NYCTALA** BREHM. This becomesGENUS **CRYPTOGLAUX** RICHMOND.

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<sup>1</sup> Including also eliminations from the Check-List.

*Cryptoglaux* RICHMOND, Auk, XVIII, April, 1901, 193.  
Type, *Strix tengmalmi* GMELIN.

Nos. 371, 372, and 372*a* will thus stand as

371. ***Cryptoglaux tengmalmi richardsoni*** (BONAPARTE).

372. ***Cryptoglaux acadica*** (GMELIN).

372*a*. ***Cryptoglaux acadica scotæa*** (OSGOOD).

454*a*. ***Myiarchus cinerascens nuttingi*** (RIDGWAY). The specimens recorded from Arizona, on the basis of which this species was introduced into the Check-List, are found to be female examples of *M. cinerascens* (*cf.* NELSON, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVII, 1904, 35). No. 454*a* is therefore to be eliminated from the list.

458*a*. ***Sayornis nigricans semiatra*** (VIGORS). This proves to be indistinguishable from *S. nigricans* (SWAINSON) (*cf.* BREWSTER, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., XLI, 1902, 119), and is to be removed from the list.

469.1. ***Empidonax griseus*** BREWSTER. This is found to be equivalent to *E. canescens* SALVIN & GODMAN, which has priority (*cf.* NELSON, Auk, 1904, 80). Hence:

469.1. ***Empidonax canescens*** SALVIN & GODMAN.

*Empidonax canescens* SALVIN & GODMAN, Biol. Centr.-Amer., Aves, II, Feb., 1889, 79.

488. ***Corvus americanus*** AUDUBON. An earlier name for the American Crow is found in

488. ***Corvus brachyrhynchus*** C. L. BREHM.

*Corvus brachyrhynchus* C. L. BREHM, Beitr. zur Vögelkunde, II, 1822, 56 (*cf.* RICHMOND, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, 1903, 125).

The Florida Crow thus becomes:

488a. **Corvus brachyrhynchos pascuus** (COUES).

498g. **Agelaius phœniceus richmondi** NELSON.

Vera Cruz Red-wing.

*Agelaius phœniceus richmondi* NELSON, Auk, XIV, Jan., 1897, 58.

GEOG. DIST. — Coast region and lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, south through eastern Mexico to Yucatan, eastern Nicaragua and eastern Costa Rica.

503. **Icterus audubonii** GIRAUD. This becomes a subspecies of *Icterus melanocephalus* (WAGLER), and will stand as

503. **Icterus melanocephalus audubonii** (GIRAUD). (Cf. RIDGWAY, Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 50, pt. II, 1902, 282.)

GENUS **SCOLECOPHAGUS** SWAINSON. This name is preoccupied, and must give place to

GENUS **EUPHAGUS** CASSIN.

*Euphagus* CASSIN, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. (for 1866), 1867, 413. Type, *Psarocolius cyanocephalus* WAGLER. (Cf. RICHMOND, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, 1903, 128.)

The following alterations become necessary in Nos. 509 and 510:

509. **Euphagus carolinus** (MÜLLER).

510. **Euphagus cyanocephalus** (WAGLER).

530a. **Astragalinus psaltria hesperophilus** OBERHOLSER.

Green-backed Goldfinch.

*Astragalinus psaltria hesperophilus* OBERHOLSER, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, Sept. 30, 1903, 116.

GEOG. DIST.—Southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico, from California and Lower California to Utah, Arizona, and extreme southwestern New Mexico.

530*b*. ***Astragalinus psaltria mexicanus*** (SWAINSON). This is found to be equivalent to *A. psaltria* (*cf.* OBERHOLSER, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, 1903, 115), and should be expunged from the Check-List.

544*b*. ***Passerculus rostratus halophilus*** (MCGREGOR). This is to be eliminated from the Check-List as equivalent to *P. rostratus guttatus*, in summer plumage. (*Cf.* BREWSTER, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., XLI, 1902, 139.)

591*d*. ***Pipilo fuscus carolæ*** MCGREGOR. This alleged form is to be eliminated, as indistinguishable from *P. fuscus crissalis* (*cf.* editorial note, Condor, 1901, 108; and MCGREGOR, Pac. Coast Avifauna, No. 2, 1901, 15).

612*a*. ***Petrochelidon lunifrons tachina*** OBERHOLSER.

Lesser Cliff Swallow.

*Petrochelidon lunifrons tachina* OBERHOLSER, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, Feb. 21, 1903, 15.

GEOG. DIST.—Southwestern Texas, south into eastern Mexico to Vera Cruz.

612.2. ***Petrochelidon melanogastra*** (SWAINSON). Found to be only subspecifically distinct from *P. lunifrons*, hence:

612*b*. ***Petrochelidon lunifrons melanogastra*** (SWAINSON). (*Cf.* RIDGWAY, Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 50, pt. III, 51, in press.)

SUBFAMILY **PTILIOGONATINÆ**. This becomes

FAMILY **PTILIOGONATIDÆ**. SILKY FLYCATCHERS. (*Cf.* RIDGWAY, Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 50, pt. I, 1901, 21.)

622d. ***Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi*** RIDGWAY.

San Clemente Shrike.

*Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi* RIDGWAY, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, 1903, 108.

GEOG. DIST.—San Clemente Island, California.

622e. ***Lanius ludovicianus migrans*** W. PALMER.

Migrant Shrike.

*Lanius ludovicianus migrans* W. PALMER, Auk, XV, July, 1898, 248.

GEOG. DIST.—Eastern Canada and eastern United States, west to Minnesota; south to the Carolinas, Tennessee, and lower Mississippi valley. Breeds chiefly in the northern parts of its range, migrating south in winter.

649. ***Compsothlypis nigrilora*** (COUES). This becomes a subspecies of *C. pitiayumi* (VIEILLOT). (Cf. RIDGWAY, Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 50, pt. II, 1902, 490), viz.:

649. ***Compsothlypis pitiayumi nigrilora*** (COUES).658. ***Dendroica rara*** (WILSON). This becomes658. ***Dendroica cerulea*** (WILSON).*Sylvia cerulea* WILSON, Amer. Orn., II, 1810, 141, pl. xvii, fig. 5.

The name *rara* was originally adopted in the Check-List on the assumption that *Sylvia cerulea* Latham was a primary reference; it, however, proves to be merely *Motacilla cerulea* Linnæus, placed in the genus *Sylvia*. As the spirit of the 'Code' (Canon XXXIII) is to ignore cases of this character (cf. ALLEN, Auk, 1903, 216), and previous rulings of the Committee have been on these lines, it follows that the name *cerulea* must be restored.

[692.] **Basileuterus culicivorus** (LICHTENSTEIN). Becomes

[692.] **Basileuterus culicivorus brasherii** (GIRAUD).

Brasher's Warbler.

*Muscicapa brasierii* (err. typ.) GIRAUD, *Sixteen Species Texan Birds*, 1841, 25, pl. vi, fig. 2.

GEOG. DIST.—Northeastern Mexico. Texas?

*B. culicivorus* occurs from southern Mexico to Costa Rica. (Cf. RIDGWAY, *Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, No. 50, pt. II, 1902, 755.)

696. **Budytes flavus leucostriatus** (HOMEYER). This becomes

696. **Budytes flavus alascensis** RIDGWAY.

Alaskan Yellow Wagtail.

*Budytes flavus alascensis* RIDGWAY, *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.*, XVI, Sept. 30, 1903, 105.

GEOG. DIST.—Western Alaska, in summer, south in winter into eastern Asia.

The true *B. flavus leucostriatus* is confined to the Old World.

SUBFAMILY **MIMINÆ**. THRASHERS, etc. This becomes

FAMILY **MIMIDÆ**. THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS, etc. (Cf. RIDGWAY, *Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, No. 50, pt. I, 1901, 23.)

713. **Heleodytes brunneicapillus** (LAFR.). This is replaced by

713. **Heleodytes brunneicapillus couesi** (SHARPE).

*Campylorhynchus couesi* SHARPE, *Catal. Birds Brit. Mus.*, VI, 1881, 196.

*H. brunneicapillus* (LAFR.) is restricted to western Mexico (cf. MEARNS, *Auk*, 1902, 142).

725*d*. **Telmatodytes palustris iliacus** RIDGWAY.

*Telmatodytes palustris iliacus* RIDGWAY, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, Sept. 30, 1903, 110.

GEOG. DIST.—Mississippi Valley and Great Plains region, north to Alberta, east to Indiana, south in migration over the greater part of Mexico (except northwestern portion), and along Gulf coast to western Florida; occasionally to middle and southern Atlantic coast.

725.1. **Telmatodytes marianæ** (SCOTT). Reduction to the rank of a subspecies becomes necessary through intergradation with *T. palustris*:

725*e*. **Telmatodytes palustris marianæ** (SCOTT). (Cf. OBERHOLSER, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, 1903, 149.)

SUBFAMILY **SITTINÆ**. NUTHATCHES. This is raised to family rank:

FAMILY **SITTIDÆ**. NUTHATCHES. (Cf. RIDGWAY, Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 50, pt. I, 1901, 22.)

733*c*. **Bæolophus inornatus restrictus** RIDGWAY.

San Francisco Titmouse.

*Bæolophus inornatus restrictus* RIDGWAY, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, Sept. 30, 1903, 109.

GEOG. DIST.—Vicinity of San Francisco Bay, California.

735*c*. **Parus atricapillus turneri** RIDGWAY.

Turner's Chickadee.

*Parus atricapillus turneri* RIDGWAY, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., II, April 10, 1884, 89.

GEOG. DIST.—Alaska, north and west of Cook Inlet. (Cf. HELLMAYR, Tierreich, Lief. 18, 1903, 56.)



SUBFAMILY **CHAMÆINÆ**. This is raised to family rank, to include the single genus *Chamæa* (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 266), and should stand after No. 746a, as:

FAMILY **CHAMÆIDÆ**. WREN-TITS.

744.1. **Psaltriparus santaritæ** RIDGWAY. This is found to be equivalent to *P. melanotis lloydi*, and should be eliminated from the Check-List. (Cf. OBERHOLSER, Auk, 1903, 199.)

745. **Psaltriparus lloydi** SENNETT. Intergradation has been shown to occur between *lloydi* and *melanotis*, hence the following change becomes necessary:

745. **Psaltriparus melanotis lloydi** (SENNETT).

GENUS **PHYLLOPSEUSTES** MEYER. Becomes

GENUS **ACANTHOPNEUSTE** J. H. BLASIUS.

*Acanthopneuste* J. H. BLASIUS, Naumannia, 1858, 313. Type, *Phyllopneuste borealis* J. H. BLASIUS. (Cf. SHARPE, Hand-List, IV, 1903, 216; OBERHOLSER, Auk, XXI, 1904, 390.) No. 747 thus becomes

747. **Acanthopneuste borealis** (J. H. BLASIUS).

750. **Regulus obscurus** (RIDGWAY). This becomes

749b. **Regulus calendula obscurus** RIDGWAY. (Cf. HELLMAYR, Tierreich, Lief. 18, 1903, 15.)

## II. PROPOSED CHANGES IN NOMENCLATURE AND SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES REJECTED.

9. **Gavia arctica** (LINNÆUS) vs. *G. pacifica* (cf. GRANT, Catal. Birds Brit. Mus., XXVI, 1898, 495). Mr. Grant's

inference, from negative evidence, that *G. arctica* does not occur in North America is erroneous, and there is hence no necessity for eliminating No. 9 from the Check-List.

**Aythya** vs. *Nyroca* (cf. HOWE, Suppl. Birds Rhode Island, 1903, 9). No change is necessary here; the reasons offered for the proposed change are insufficient. (Cf. 11th Suppl., Auk, XIX, 1902, 332.)

224. **Steganopus tricolor** VIEILLOT vs. *S. glacialis* (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 795). No change is thought to be advisable, as the name *glacialis* is of doubtful application.

GENUS **PHILOHELA** GRAY vs. *Microptera* (cf. POCHE, Ornith. Monatsb., 1904, 23). *Microptera* of NUTTALL (1834) is pre-occupied by *Micropterus* LESSON (1831), leaving *Philohela* as the earliest available generic name for the American Woodcock.

310. **Meleagris gallopavo merriami** NELSON vs. *M. g. intermedia* (cf. GRANT, Ibis, 1902, 235). The Committee has again examined series of Turkeys from Texas, Arizona, and Mexico, and finds no reason for reversing its former decision.
318. **Leptotila fulviventris brachyptera** (SALVADORI) vs. *L. brachyptera* (cf. GODMAN, Biologia Centr.-Am., Aves, III, 1902, 259). The two forms are found to intergrade, and no change is required.
328. **Elanus leucurus** (VIEILLOT) vs. *E. glaucus* (BARTON) (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 656). No changes is necessary, as *Falco glaucus* BARTON probably refers to the Marsh Hawk, but is not with certainty identifiable. (Cf. 9th Suppl., Auk, XIX, 1899, 131.)
- 407a. **Melanerpes formicivorus angustifrons** BAIRD vs. *M. angustifrons* (cf. BREWSTER, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., XLI,

1902, 105). A trinomial appears best to express the status of this form, although actual intergradation is difficult to prove. No change is deemed desirable at this time.

425. ***Aëronautes melanoleucus*** vs. *A. saxatilis* (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 557).

The name *saxatilis* was originally rejected on account of insufficiency of description; no change appears to be necessary.

*Myiarchus crinitus residuus* HOWE, Contr. Amer. Orn., I, 1902, 30. (Cf. NELSON, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVII, 30, March 10, 1904.)

Rejected, as being too close to *M. crinitus*.

Subgenus *Empidias* CABANIS (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 522).

Not considered worthy of recognition.

456. ***Sayornis phœbe*** (LATHAM) vs. *Empidias phœbe* (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 525). No change is required.

Subgenus *Mitrephanes* COUES (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 532).

*Mitrephanes* was originally applied to a group of extra-limital species, and Nos. 470 and 470a of the Check-List have been erroneously referred to it.

491. ***Nucifraga columbiana*** (WILSON) vs. *Picicorvus columbianus* (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 490). This case was decided at a former meeting of the Committee, and no further action is considered necessary.

SUBFAMILIES *Sturnellinæ*, *Ageleuinæ*, *Icterinæ*, and *Quiscalinæ* (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 464). These proposed subfamilies of the Icteridæ adopted in the 'Key,' seem distinct enough when North American members of the family alone are considered, but they merge into each other through the many intermediate links in tropical America.

*Icterus spurius affinis* (LAWRENCE) (*cf.* COUES, Key, 1903, 477).

This is considered inseparable from *I. spurius* and not worthy of recognition.

GENUS **ASTRAGALINUS** CABANIS vs. *Acanthis* (*cf.* HARTERT, Vög. Pal. Fauna, 1903, 66). In the opinion of the Committee *Astragalinus* is sufficiently distinct generically from *Acanthis*.

**Centronyx**, subgenus of *Coturniculus*, vs. *Centronyx*, subgenus of *Passerculus* (*cf.* COUES, Key, 1903, 403). The question of the status of *Centronyx* was carefully considered by the Committee last year (*cf.* Twelfth Supplement, Auk, 1903, 349), and no change appears to be necessary.

GENUS **COTURNICULUS** BONAPARTE vs. *Coturniculus*, subgenus of *Ammodramus* (*cf.* COUES, Key, 1903, 403, 408). The status of *Coturniculus* was also decided at a recent meeting of the Committee (*cf.* Twelfth Supplement, Auk, 1903, 349).

GENUS **OREOSPIZA** RIDGWAY vs. *Chlorura* (*cf.* POCHE, Ornith. Monatsb., 1904, 25-26). There is no necessity for a change, as *Chlorura* Scater is preoccupied by *Chlorurus* Swainson.

588*l.* **Pipilo maculatus atratus** RIDGWAY vs. *P. m. megalonyx* (*cf.* GRINNELL, Condor, 1902, 23). No change is deemed advisable in this case.

Subgenus *Kieneria* BONAPARTE (*cf.* COUES, Key, 1903, 460). This is used by the late Dr. Coues as a subgenus for the Brown Towhees, but is properly a synonym of the extralimital genus *Melozona*, and as such does not require consideration here.

Genus *Chrysocantor* MAYNARD (*cf.* BANGS, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., XXXIX, 1903, 153). This is rejected as being based upon color characters alone.

*Dendroica aestiva brewsteri* GRINNELL, Condor, 1903, 72.

Not accepted, the characters ascribed being too slight for recognition in the Check-List.

*Helcodytes brunneicapillus anthonyi* MEARNS (Auk, 1902, 143).

This is considered to be the same as *H. b. couesi* (cf. SWARTH, Condor, 1904, 17-19), and is therefore rejected.

*Catherpes mexicanus polioptilus* OBERHOLSER, Auk, 1903, 197.

Rejected, as not sufficiently distinct from *C. mexicanus albifrons*.

GENUS **TROGLODYTES** VIEILLOT vs. *Paulomagus* HOWE (cf.

HOWE, Suppl. Birds R. I., 1903, 22). *Paulomagus* is proposed as a new generic name for the House Wrens. The Committee has already decided that *Troglodytes* refers to the House Wrens; hence *Paulomagus* is superfluous.

GENUS **OLBIORCHILUS** OBERHOLSER vs. *Anorthura* RENNIE

(cf. SHARPE, Hand-List, IV, 1903, 91). *Anorthura* is an exact equivalent of *Troglodytes*, embracing the House Wrens only, leaving *Olbiorchilus* as the first name applicable to the Winter Wrens.

*Cistothorus palustris dissæptus* BANGS, Auk, 1902, 352. This

is rejected as being equivalent to *Telmatodytes palustris*.

Mr. Bangs distinguished two forms, but through inadvertence renamed *T. palustris*; the other has since been described as *T. p. iliacus*.

*Sitta pusilla caniceps* BANGS (cf. HELLMAYR, Tierreich, Lief.

18, 1903, 190). This was rejected at an earlier meeting of the Committee (cf. Ninth Supplement, Auk, 1899, 131).

GENUS **PSALTRIPARUS** BONAPARTE vs. *Ægithalos* HERMANN

(cf. HELLMAYR, Tierreich, Lief. 18, 1903, 108). These two genera are held by the Committee to be perfectly distinct.

**Auriparus** vs. *Anthoscopus* (cf. HELLMAYR, Tierreich, Lief. 18, 1903, 125). No change seems warranted.

Subgenus *Phyllobasileus* CABANIS (cf. COUES, Key, 1903, 262).

This is not considered sufficiently distinct from *Regulus* to be recognized in the Check-List.

GENUS ***Ixoreus*** BONAPARTE vs. *Hesperocichla* BAIRD (cf. SCLATER, Ibis, 1903, 142). No change in this case is considered necessary. While Bonaparte may have mistaken a South American species of *Tenioptera* for *Turdus naevius* Gmelin, he distinctly states his new genus *Ixoreus* to be based upon "*Turdus naevius*, Gm."